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GENERAL NEWS.

Charlotte, N. C., pays four dollars per thousand feet for its gas,

A Baltimore capitalist intends establishing a vegetable canning factory in Vicksburg.

One mile from Monroe, Ga., stands a log cabin that was once the home of Gov. Lumpkin.

A goose farm with 500 birds has been established in Talladegs, county, Ala. Three hundred dollars an acre was paid for fitteen acres of land in Volusia

A \$15,000 stock of goods is the prize of a shooting match at Meridian, Miss., the chances being held at \$100 a shot.

county, Fla., the other day. 1

The Board of Health of Ccdar Keys, Fig. has prohibited the sale of oysters

There are said to be 2,200 convicts in the Texas penitentiary. Of this number three-fifths are negroes and Mex-

Since the railroad has been completed to Anniston, efforts are being made to develop the gold and copper mines of Cieburne county, Ala. An arrangement is on foot in Augus-

ta, Ga., to have cooking taught in the public schools. Much trouble is experienced with the domestic servants.

A new enterprise, the "South Georgia Real Estate Guide," is now publahed at Americus, Ga. It is published by W. J. Dibble, who is trying to induce immigration.

Many of the Northern tourists on their way home from Florida carry with them pet alligators. At the Charleston Hotel a waiter is detailed especially to feed and water the aligators.

An English company have purchased 600, and will erect furnaces at once, the man is blown to atoms, giving employment to 200 men,

The past acaron in Jacksonville, Fla.,

Gen. Levi Lawlor, of Mobile, and others are forming a company with \$200,000 capital, to establish at an early day a pig iron furnace of 60 tons daily capacity, at Alpine, on the Selma, Rome

& Dalton railroad. Truck farmers of South Georgia are said to be snipping cabbage and realizing from five to seven cents a pound. they make from \$75 to \$100 per acre, on them. The reed were sown last sum-

mer and the plants set out in the fall. The killing of sheep by dogs is distressingly on the increase throughout Tennessee, where dogs are protected by law and the bloodthirsty sheep are permitted to roam at pleasure. Tennessee will presently be contesting with Georgia for the prize mad-dog.

Albany, (Ga.) special: Several Texans have been buying up cattle in the wire-grass region around here for several weeks for shipment to Fort Worth, Tex. It is said they have thus far procured about 4,000 head at an average of \$7,50 perhead. The rates of shipping will be \$80 per car load.

The Drinks of all Nations.

"Drinks of All Nations" was the sub-

ject of President Cotten's lecture before a Boston temperance meeting. "Britons, he said, "spend annually £140,000,000 in drink, an average of \$19 each. This does not include the sum paid for imported French wines. I have learned that America is now experting large quantities of whisky to England. It so, God help England. In Russia the amon people drink enormous quantitles of strong beer. The nobility con-Government has recently appointed a commission to devise a scheme of national reformation. But one dram shop is to be allowed in each village, and where two villages are in close proximity one shop must do for both. At present 8,000,000 gallons of wine and brandy are annually consumed in Russia. Hollanders drink gin and beer. Germans use beer and wine as beverages. In 1878 official reports show that there were 11,800 breweries in the German speaking countries, turning out 816,000,000 imperial gallons of beer. In Copenhagen the authorities have decided to reduce the 1,350 beer shops to eight. No pretty barmaids are to be allowed to serve liquor, and the drunken man must carried home in a cab at the expense of the last man who sold him beer. The Turks are the only temperate race of all civilized nations. No good Mohammeden touches distilled or malt liquors."

JEFFERSON said: "I would rather live in a country with newspapers and no government, than in a country with a government and no newspapers." This kindly criticism was probably the result of some rural newspaper saying that Jefferson left the largest squash of the season at the office, and that his daughter was the finest waltzer at the Branch, and that he was such an honest politician that he ought to be the candidate of all the parties. - Puck.

WHEN a colored man gits ter be so well educated dat he doan' believe in de Bible, he has lost his identity as a nigger, but yet ain't fitten ter be classed a clock that will need no winding or widde white folks,—Arkansaw Traveler, other attention, but will be connected ouring his i ducination.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

AT a recent stenographic exhibition in Peris a postal card was exhibited which bore 41,000 words.

THE green three cent stamp will have been in use thirteen years, when thenew rate goes into effect next October.

A MURDERER, who was hanged by a mob at Jacksonville, Id., some time ago, turns out to have been a son of Quantrell, the Missonri guerrilla,

A STORY comes from Canton, China, of a woman who, to punish a female slave who had stolen some food, cut a slice from the girl's thigh and made her cook and eat it.

Under a law making vaccination compulsory, there has been very little smallpox in Massachusetts. For this and from now until the close of the warm other reasons the Legislature does not find it expedient to repeal the law,

> A Mississippi man has discovered that an excellent quality of sugar can be made from sweet polatoes. If this proves true a new use has been found for one of the best and most prolific of American products.

> I AT Reading, Pa., a disease similar to the pink-eye among horses has broken out among the people. It temporarily destroys the eye-sight, and the trouble lasts about ten days. No permanent injury follows the attack.

In every tobacco factory at Key West there is a "reader," Cubans can not talk without gesticulation, and in order to keep them from talking a person is employed to read aloud to the "hands" during working hours,

A Washington, D. C., man named King, has invented a suicide pellet, They are the size of a capsule, and are flavored to suit any taste. When swal-50,000 acres iron lands in East Tenues lowed by the victim the moisture of the ser. They supply a capital of \$1,000,- stomach causes them to explode, and

Statistics of crime in reven of the Jargest cities of the United States, and though rather short, has been the most based upon population, show that Sin prosperous in the city's history. A Francisco leads in the number of homicareful investigation shows that 44,167 cides, followed in the order of mention tourists have visited the city during the by Cincinnati, Baltimore, New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston,

JAMES LICK left \$150,000 to establish and maintain free baths in San Francisco. One of the trustees, Dr. Stillman, now proposes to increase the fund by braced in 225 families, and it must be popular subscription to \$253,000, and to horne in mind that the numbers conerect salt water baths large enough for

the accommodation of the whole city. A MOVEMENT IS ON foot in New York and elsewhere to raise a fund for the erection of a monument over the grave of Charlotte Cashman, the actress, at Mount Aubura, Boston. The grave is in a lot selected and paid for by Miss Cushman only a few mouths before her

The greatest quantity of stamps ever sent from Washington at one time were shipped on the 23d of April by the Internal Revenue Bureau. They were the rebate tobacco stamps for use after May

1. They weighed fifteen tons, and reprepresented a great many hundred thousands of dollars in value,

An undertaker in Philadelphia recently advertised for a full bearded man of middle age and of good address, and explained that he wanted him to visit families which death had entered to take instructions regarding the funeral, etc., and that there is something about a bearded man that inspires respect and confidence.

A Perrsaugue clergyman thinks that Shakspeare was a great man but overrated. He contends that the principal characters of "Macbeth" are to be found in the Book of Kings in the Bible, and remarks that Dr. Halsey, in his lecture on "Shakspeare" at Princeton College, stated that Shakspeare's regular practice was to study the Bible seven hours

COL. ROCKWELL is engage I in the task of editing and compiling the speeches delivered by tien, Garfield during the last year or so of his life, including his utterances at the Chicago Convention, his responses to the numerous delegations that visited him at Mentor, and others delivered at the Williams College Alumni meeting at Cincinnati, and on other occasions after his inauguration.

MRS. JULIA WICKHAM LEIGH, who died in New York City a few days ago, was once a notable woman. She was the widow of Benjamin Watkins Leigh, who was a United States Scuator from Virginia from 1835 to 1811, and who died in 1849. She was also the daughter of John Wickham, one of the counsel for the defense in the trial of Aaron Burr for high treason in 1801, and who for many years stood at the head of the Vir-

A COMPANY is forming in the State of Ohio, known as the "Time Telegraph Company," the object of which is to put in business and dwelling houses clocks run and regulated by electricity. It is a branch of a company in New York. The idea is that a subscriber may have placed in his house, for the sum of \$3 per year,

by wire with a central office, from which every pendulum in the grand system of clocks will be made to swing with one common impulse.

ALEXANDER F. VILLERS, who died at Philadelphia a few days ago, left this odd will, which was drawn up in July last: "My last will and testament: I leave my body to the University of Pennsylvania for dissecting purposes, and wish to be cremated at the same institution. In case I should have any money or property at the time of my death, I leave the whole to the doctor attending me. In case I am cremated, I wish my ashes to be thrown away and not given to or viewed by anybody that had been acquainted with me."

Amond some of the disalvantages of royalty is the lack of privacy accorded to it, and the royal personages are frequently in the habit of securing this privacy, when on a journey, by traveling incognito. The King and Queen of the Netherlands are now passing through England n this way, and are said to be enjoying themselves like two children let out of school, Though it is perfectly well known who they are, by a convenient fiction this knowledge is not utilized, and even Queen Victoria has given no official recognition of their visit to her

Soon after the Carnese legition was established in its present quarters at Washington's beggar called on professional business. To his amazement he was ushered with elaborate bows and gestures into a luxurious room, where an attache kindly asked how he might serve him. A collection was then taken up for his benefit among the members of the embassy, and he was invited to refresh himself with a lunch of delicate confections. As a matter of course his singular experience was known to every beggar in town within twenty-four hours, and the legation has been besieged ever since by unprepossessing visitors.

A CORRESPONDENT of The Boston Post, writing about the remnants of Indian tribes surviving in Massachusetts, says: "It is believed by those who have an opportunity to know, that no Indian of pure aboriginal blood, is now a resident in the commonwealth, they having from time to time intermarried with the whites and those of African descent. Counting all those who have Indian blood in their veins in the State, in the to-day not far from 1,000 persons, em tained in these tribes have been increased for over 200 years. It is a very significant fact that no tribe now existing is increasing numerically in the com-

How He Was Laid.

It was in a smoking car on the Hudson river road. A New Yorker was exhibiting an invention to several gentlemen, when an old farmer, with a settled look of radness on his face, heaved a sigh and "I never see such a thing without

wanting to weep."
"Nothing about this invention to

weep over, that I can see," replied the inventor. "Wall, it sort o' calls up old recollec

tions. Twenty years age this fall I thought I had a fortune in my grasp. Yes sir, I believed I had struck the biggest thing since steam was brought into "What was it?"

"One day when the old woman was flat down with her lame leg I had to cook my own dinner. After I'd got the paneake batter all fixed up I couldn't find the greased rag the old woman used to rub over the spider. Sort o' absent mindedlike I picked up a piece of raw turnip from the table and used it instead. It worked to a charm; no smell, no smoke, no stick."

He paused here to wipe away a tear,

and then continued,
"There was the fortune, I figured that 9,000,000 greased rags were used in this country five months in the year, Fifty thousand barrels of grease were used up greasing spider. Over \$100,000 wasted and gone. One turnip would make six greasers; 1,000 bushels would make enough to supply the country. All that was needed was to cut them up into fancy style, affix a handle, and go to supply the demand at 10 cents each.

"There was money in it,"
"No, there wasn't. I bought 100 bushels of turnips, \$56 worth of wire, and hired two men to go to work, and then I took a greaser and went over ir to Vermont to see how it would take; they would not have it. They had semething more simple and much cheaper."
"What could it have been?"

"They spit on the spider!" replied the old man, as a tear made a break down his nose and was swallowed up in the dust on the floor .- Walt Street

Buried Alive in a Tunnel.

The Atlanta Constitution says:—An old man named Stephen Shell, living in Campbell County, became impressed with the idea that a rich deposit of gold existed on his place. So strongly did this impression seize him that he became a monomaniac on the subject. Lately as he was digging in search of the precious stuff, and had delved some ifteen or twenty yards under a hill, when a large rock fell and effectually closed his passage. After vainly attempting to dig himself out of his precarious position, his family, who had become anxious on account of h | prolonged absence, went in search of him, and, discovering his condition, 1 v great exertion extricated him. The rendent has had the effect of

MAKING A REPUTATION.

A Scene in a Western Town and What Came of It.

A Western paper tells of a scene that took place in a Texas frontier town, as follows:—As Dusenbery walked into Cal-lahau's Retreat, the habitues saw at a glauce that something was about to happen, and something did happen; for in about half a minute there entered four of the most ferocious-looking ruflians who had ever been seen in Fort Worth. They came with clanking spurs and fierce beards, two revolvers to each man and a large bowie knife for lagniappe, and they sat down to a table and called for whisky all around. A tremor ran through the assembly. Fort Worth's best citizens were for a moment staggered. But Dusenbery never quailed. On the contrary he almost snorted with joy as he saw his opportunity to make a reputation for courage. These men were strangers, he was backed by a large number of Fort Worth's sharpshooters; yea, he would pick a fuss with them, and henceforth be known as a terror. He had not long to wait. The strangers emptied their glasses, called for more, and then, glancing ma-lignantly around, they launched forth in furious abuse of Texas and Texans, their language being garnished with that profusion and ornamentation of profanity peculiar to the guileless cattle-drover. As they ceased, Dusenbery, having taken in the situation at a glance, arose and advanced toward the strangers. The Fort Worth men put up their pistols and sank back in breathless amazement as Dusenbery marched up to the table at which the strangers sat. His flashing eyes, his heaving breast, his five feet of towering form reduced the spectators to speechlessness. Even the strangers paused and seemed impressed.

"Gentlemen," said Dusenbery, diving into his trousers and bringing up an ancient silver watch, "you have wounded the finest feelings of my nature in your remarks about Texas, and you must retract them, or-but never mind. I give you five minutes to retract it. Five minnies to secure your safe return to home and friends. Five minutes to avoid a grave upon the lonesome plains. Five minutes

An awful silence fell upon the crowd, The blood curdled in the vein of every Fort Worthian present. What! had they een treating this fire-eating Terror with careely veiled contempt? Had they scarcely veiled contempt? Had they been absolutely courting death for years? But just then one of the strangers re-govered his power of speech and said;

"Why, stranger, if you feel that way bout it, of course we'll cut it short. We deln't mean it for you or any of your friends, but was just talking on loose

And with that they all four got up and lunk out, their six-shooters flopping feebly against their hips, and their spurs looking drooped and weedy as they went, With the closing of the door, Dusenbery's eye recled in its socket. The excitement which had thus far held him up gave way, and he collapsed, a flabby little heap upon the floor. The assembled citizens crowded round him, cager to offer attention to the hero of the henr, and at last he was rehabilitated sufficicutly to admit of his being sent home in charge of a special and confidential friend. "Why, Doozey, my boy, you took us all by surprise. We never thought you were a fighter."

"No. Why, don't you know those are four of the worst mea in the cattle business? And we expected every minute to see them go to shooting.

armed ?"
"Well, I had a pistel for show, but I don't believe it was loaded, and I couldn't have fired it, anyhow."

"Geat heavens, man, suppose they had efused to retract, what on earth would on have done?"

Dusenbery stopped, looked all around to see it any one were passing, pulled his friend's ear close down to his lips, and

"I'd have extended the time."-New Orleans Times.

Silver-Gray Foxes.

A communication in the Rutland (Vt.) Herald says: "In a recent issue I notice an item referring to a silver gray fox that has lately been killed in this vicin-ity. It is a general belief that this fox s a distinct species from the red fox, but this belief is wrong. The silver-gray or black fox belongs to the ordinary red fox family, and its color is simply a freak of nature, which, however, occurs more frequently in wooded districts than in the settled portions of the country. I have often been informed by Northern trappers that where the dam or she-fox was silver-gray or black her offspring was invariably red in color, and I have known but one instance where more than one silver-gray fox has been found among a litter of young foxes. One of them was presented to me by the trap-per who found it. I sent this fox to a relative of mine in Sheldon, where he remained until two years of age and was one of the most beautiful animals I ever saw. He was afterward purchased by an an agent of Lord Eglington and if alive is now in that nobleman's park in Scotland, Where the ends of the majority of the long hairs of this fox are tipped with white it is called silver-gray, but if the hairs are tipped with black it is than mown as a black fox. I once saw a lot of several dozen of these skins that were of all shades from nearly white to jet black, Mr. E. W. Geer, of Sheldon, some years ago killed a very fine colored black fox, which was purchased by a Hudson Bay agent. The more inferior grades of these colored foxes are known as bastard, and the next grade above, cross foxes."

He Gracefully Accepted.

"I assure you, gentlemen," said the convict upon entering the prison, "that has sought me, and not I the . My own affairs really demand all my time and attention, and I may truly say that my selection to fill this position was an entire surprise. Had I consulted my own interests, I should have per-emptorily declined to serve, but, as I am in the hands of my friends, I see no other course than to submit," And he

SPOTTING THE SPOTTERS.

The Secret Means by Which Railroad Be-tectives are Found Out.

"The present system of spotting is a pretty clever way of heading off dishonsaid the reporter to a sleeping car porter who was brushing him. "I pre-sume it works like a charm?"

"Oh, certainly it works like a charm, That is, it costs the company thousands of dollars were it saves the company thousands of cents. We just sit still and let these fellows get on to us—we do," and the sleek mulatto chuckled audibly as he agan applied the brush to the reportorial overcoat, "Every spotter is known to us the moment he his foot upon the platform, and it is sel-dom one of the bloodhounds has an opportunity to do eny spotting. We turn ble to him in a minute, and if any steal-ing took place ordinarily, it would certainly stop short while the spotter was

"Do the porters stand in with the conductors?"

"The porter is the dishonest conductor's best bower. If it were not for us the spotter system would be, to some extent, a success.

"How do you help the conductor?"
"Why, we spot the spotters, so to seak. We have a way of marking every mother's son of them, and that is how I know that that man I pointed out to you is a detective. I shined his boots awhile ago and discovered who he was, I've got his boots in here now, and if you will come in I'll show you one of them and you can easily guess how I know him to be a spotter.

The perter led the way to one of the apartments of the car, and picking up one of the boots held the sole uppermost, showing three X's cut on the heel

of the boot. 'That's the way we size 'em up," said the porter with a triumphant smile. "It was a close call, and if I hadn't shined his boots he might have gone through unobserved. Of course everything would have been all right, anyway, for my conductor is a square man, but I like to be on to these fellows who pry-into our business. It's a cold day when they get ahead of the conductors and perters, I can tell you."

What do these three X's cut on the heel of the boot mean?"
"Why, that's just the point. It is a

private mark by which I recognized the man as a spotter. He was probably marked some time age, and he has be a wearing these broks around just the same, never dreaming that howas given himself away right along. It could not be plainer if he wore a star bearing the word spotter,"

"How do you find out these men to

"That's easy enough, Do you think we have no friends at all to tell us about these thines a spotter gets on at St. Louis, or Chicago, or Kausas City, or New York, Somebody goes to the conductor and says 'You've got a spotter on board tonight, watch out for him,' A description is furnished and I go in, and in blacking his boots mark one of the act s with my three X's. That enals his us-fulness as a detective until he buys a new pair of boots or shoes. That is one way to get on to them, but there are others. A conductor sometimes receives a note something like this: 'A spotter will go out with you tomight. He is a tall man, with sandy monstache and well dressed. Yours, J.—. The writer is cometimes an employee of the company, and stands in with the men. This is not often the case, but, at any rate, we don't have much trouble in tumbling to the detectives,"-Kansas City Times,

DRINK OR FIGHT.

An Ancedote about Ole Bull-

Going down the Mississippi, Ole Bull met on the steamboat a party of halfsavage men, colonists from the far West. While reading his newspaper he was nocosted by one of the men, who had been sent as a spokesman by his companions, with the request that the fiddler would take a drink with them, offering him a whisky flask at the same time.
"I thank you," said Ole Bull, "but I

never drink whisky." With a curse the fellow asked him if

he was a toe-totaler.
"No, but whisky is like poison to me, "If you can't drink, come and fight

The man's commades had gathered round him meantime, and they all cried; "If you won't drink, you must fight. You look darn strong; show us what you

"A Norseman can fight as well as any body when his blood is up, but I can't fight when my blood is cold, and why

"You look like a strong fellow, and darn it, you shall fight." Seeing no way of escape, Ole Bull quietly said: 'Since you insist on testing my strength, and there is no reason for fighting, I will tell you what I will do.

Let any one of you take hold of me in any way he likes, and I'll wager that in half a minute he shall lie on his back at my feet." A big fellow was chosen, who stepped forward and grasped the violinist round the waist, but was instantly thrown over his head by a sudden wrench, and lay senseless on the deck. Ole Bull now felt himself in a very uncomfortable position, for he saw one of the man's omrades draw a bowie knife, but was relieved when it was used only to open a flask. A good dose of its contents poured down his throat soon revived the

fainting man, and his question : "How the deuce was I thrown down here?" was answered by a shout of laughter from his companions in which he himself joined. He sprang to his feet, and after vainly trying to persuade Ole Bull to show him how he had thrown him, he said:

"Take this knife home with you; you fight darn well; you are as quick as lightning!" The artist heard of the same fellow

later as having gone to an editor to call him to an account for an adverse criticism on his playing, ready to fight for for "the strongest fiddler he had ever seen, anyhow."

FOR THE SCRAP BOOK.

The First Appearance of the Notable In-

Envelopes were first used in 1839, The first steel pen was made in 1830. The first air pump was made in 1654. The first lucifer match was made in

Mohammed was born at Mecca about

The first iron steamship was built in The first balloon ascent was made in

The first steel plate was discovered in The first horse railroad was built in

The Franciscans arrived in England in The first steamboat plied the Hudson

The entire Hebrew Bible was printed in 1488. Ships were first "copper bottomed" in

Gold was first discovered in California The first telescope was used in England

Christianity was introduced into Japan in 1549, The first watches were made at Nuren-

First saw maker's anvil brought to America in 1819. First almarase printed by Geo, Von Furbach in 1460.

The first newspaper advertisement appeared in 1652. Percussion arms were used in the U. Army in 1830.

unitry was in 1829. Omnibuses were first introduced in New York in 1830, Keresene was first used for lighting

The first use of a locomotive in this

uposes in 1826. The first copper cent was coined in New Haven in 1687.

The first glass factory in the United States was built in 1789.

States was built in 1789.
The first printing press in the United States was worked in 1620.
Gians windows were first introduced in Euroland in the cighth century.
The first steam engine on this continuit was brought from Pagland in 1763. The first complete sewing machine was and it by Eine Howe, Jr., in 1846. the had Seeb by her the Proposition of

The first attempt to manufactors plus this country was made soon after the

thin Knowledge was primared in

or of 1812. The first prayer book of Edward VI. me into use by authority of Parliament Whit Sunday, 1548.

The first temp rance society in this

The first coach in Scotland was brought thither in 1561, when Queen May cando eron France. It belonged to Alexander The first daily newspaper appeared in

The first daily newspaper appeared in 1702. The first newspaper printed in the United States was published in Boston on Sept. 25, 1770.

The manufacture of percelain was introduced into the province of Hexin, Japon, from Chica in 1513, and Hexin

ware still bears Chinese marks.

The first society for the exclusive pur-

ache and well
The writer is
if the company,
m. This is not
yrate, we don't
making to the

The first iclegraphic instrument was
macrosfully operated by S. F. B. Morse,
the inventor, in 1815, though its utility
was not demonstrated to the world until

The first Union flag was unfurled on the let of January, 1776, over the comput Cambridge. It had thirisen stripes of

white and red, and retained the English When Capt. Cook first visited Tahiti, the natives were using nails of wood, bone, shell, and stone. When they saw iron mails they fancied them to be shoots of some very hard wood, and desirous of securing such a valuable commodity, they planted them in their gurdens.

How Some Women Sleep. "How do you sleep?" asked the doc-

tor of my friend. "Splendidly," she replied; "nine or ten hours without a dream; but when I awake I have a dreadful headache." "What is your bedroom like?"

I had seen this prettiest of imaginable nests, and I chipped in with a descrip-tion of it. Nothing could be wrong about the ventilation, I declared, for the windows were high and brend, and were left open over night. The bedstend was carved all over in solid resewood; mattress was filled with freshly-curled hair and rested on springs; the linen was of the whitest and finest; the blankets were a gift from California, where the softest and warmest are made. The recollection of the down pillows threw me into capturous praise of the undressed silk of which their coverings were made,

and their claborate embroidery.
"Hold on" interrupted the doctor;
"you are not, writing a fashionable letter just now. Have you ever seen Laura askep in this wonderfully beautiful bed?"

Yes, only yester lay morning." "Where was her nose?"

"Let mo see, Oh, yes; it was under I always sloop that way," said Laura, the blankets.

"I cover my head when I get into bed, and it stays so all night."
"Probably that causes all your trouble," said the doctor, "You manage to ventilate your room properly, and then manage to breathe vitiated air for eight or ten hours every night. Stop it, Sleep with your head uncovered for a week, and then let me know how you

of the week felt first-rate. It's rather embarrassing for a shop-

keeper to be obliged to bluff a tax assessor on the valuation of his stock, and on being burned out that night have to face this same man as chairman of an underwriters' committee on valuation,

SCRAPS OF SCIENCE.

Concennian the cause of London logs, it is now suggested that they are largely due to the burning of suiphur, 200 tons of this substance being daily burned in

London. It has been found necessary to begin he formation of a new entrance to the Monnt Cenis Tunnel on the French side. The former entrance showed dangerous igns of sinking.

M. Bovener has found that the juice of the fig tree contains a powerful fer-ment, capable of digesting albuminoid matters as they are digested by the juices Coaches were first used in England in of the stomach.

The inquiries of Professor Cohn, of Breslau, indicate that short-sightedness is tarely or never born with those subject to it, and that it is almost always the result of strains sustained by the eye

luring study in early youth. THE force exerted by the discharge f heavy guns is something tremendous, In some experiments at Woolwich it was estimated that the pressure upon the explosion was more than sixty tons per

quare inch. M. Donns is stated to have introduced be telephone in connection with his sci-utitle explorations of the bed of the Bay of Naples. By this means the diver and he boatmen overhead are able to comunicate with each other as quickly and atelligently as can be wished.

Anorura scare is to follow that in regard to color blindness. Statistics have seen published by a learned Heidelberg professor to prove that engineers on railways are peculiarly subject to affec-tions of the air, which might compro-mise the safety of passengers.

Ir is asserted that if a person exposes imself to the electric light for some time in a close inspection of the same, hands and cheeks will show-if he be f fair complexion-all the simptoms of sunburn," even in midwinter, and he will develop freekles on his countenance as quickly as when he goes about unprotested by a sun umbrella in midsum-

Lost Babies.

A reporter in a New York paper thus sk tenes one of his encounters with the httle burden-bearing children who go wandering in the streets of the great cities. The incident occurred last September, but if September incidents of the serrows of poverty out of doors are said enough, winter time adds auguish to

the tragedy;
At the foot of the lamp-post at the junction of Park Row and Broadway sat a wan, despondent group. A pale little girl, not more than seven, held in her ragged lap a baby on whose pallid brow the seal of death seemed set. Just as the reporter reached them a policeman came ng, and looking sharply at the group, exclaimed:

"Git out o' that !" "Hold on, little one. Officer, you can 'git' vourself. Who are you, little girl?" 'Me name's Mary Koppinger, and I live in Jay street, sir.'

"Brooklyn?"
"Yes, sir. Me mudder's sick, and I come over with the baby and I've lost "How did you cross the ferry?" "I dodged 'em, sir,"

Here the baby, ragged, dirty, began to ery. The little girl enddled it to her breast and chirped awhile.

"Baby seems sick," "Can you find the way home!"

"No, sir," Now, no stage-driver would stop for the "likes of them," and it was rather embarrassing. To call a coupe was absurd; so, taking the little child by the shoulder-both her arms were full of baby-the reporter took her to the corper of Beekman street and put her in a

bobtail ear. With two peaches in her pocket and a cuarter in her grip the little matron almost smiled as she said "good-by," but her sick and feeble charge cuddled closer as she slept, and off they went toward the City of Churches.

Of the million left, many, very many, are Mary Koppingers. Sick and in trou streets, hungry and tired, until -well,

The Grain Crops of 1882.

By the latest figuring of the Agricultural Bureau at Washington it is re-ported the corn crop of 1882 is placed at 1,635,000,000 bushels, and the yield of wheat at 510,000,000 bushels. These estimates may be accepted as probably not far from the amounts which will be shown by the official and final returns, shown by the official and final rectains and the results are highly encouraging. Considering the fears which were freely expressed for the corn crop in the early part of last summer it appears from the Agricultural Bureau's data to have been exceptionally good. Up to 1879 the maximum yield of Indian corn in this maximum yield of Indian corn in this country (which occurred in that year) was 1,547,901,000 bushels. Last year's crop by the above estimate, exceeds that of 1879 by 87,000,000 bushels, and falls only about 207,000,000 under the crop of 1880. It fully justifies the prediction which the Herald made as early as August 2 that the estimates then made of the probable yield of the crop would have "to be revised and enlarged." The latest official estimate of that year's wheat erop places it at about 80,000,000 bushels more than that of 1878, 60,000,000 more than that of 1879 and 50,000,000 more than that of 1880. The past year will, therefore, be memorable in the agricultural annals of the country as one agricultural annals of the country as one of fruitful seasons, filling not only our own land but others with food and gladness. While the present winter began with some severe weather in the Northwest the recent conditions have been comparatively mild over the country generally, so that there is now no unmistakable menace of a hard winter, such as that of 1880-81 (in which on December 29 the terrible cold of fifty-nine degrees below zero was registered in Montana) to mar the crop prospects of the new year,—New York Herald. She followed his advice, and at the end